

RED CLAY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

TO AUTHORIZE THE LEVY OF ADDITIONAL TAXES AND THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS

Notice is hereby given that a Special Election will be held on February 28, 2024, in the Red Clay Consolidated School District (“RCCSD” or the “District”) in accordance with the provisions of Chapters 19, 20, and 21 of Title 14 of the Delaware Code, in order to permit the voters of the District to vote either for or against each of the following two items:

Section 1:

To support ongoing district operations, the Red Clay Consolidated School District is seeking authority to levy and collect an additional \$0.30 per \$100 of assessed value in local school taxes for current operating expenses as set forth below, effective July 1, 2024, an additional \$0.10 per \$100 of assessed value effective July 1, 2025, and an additional \$0.10 per \$100 of assessed value effective July 1, 2026 for a total of \$0.50 per \$100 of assessed value each year thereafter on all assessed taxable real estate in the District to fund operating expenses totaling \$27,416,091.

For a property in the District assessed at a rate of \$80,745 (Red Clay Consolidated School District average assessment), the increased current expense cost to the homeowner would be \$404.00 per year.

The purpose of this proposed tax increase is to provide funding for programs such as, but not limited to, the following:

- Increased operating costs for district operations
- Safety and Security initiatives including additional constables
- Expanding curricular, extra-curricular, and other instructional activities

Section 2:

The Red Clay Consolidated School District is seeking authority to issue bonds in the amount of \$128,206,651 for a school renovation program. These renovations include, but are not limited to HVAC, Electrical, Plumbing, Interior Construction, Exterior Enclosure and Site Improvements and includes the legal fees, architectural fees, contingencies and costs of supervision and auditing incidental to this renovation. Work will be performed in the following district schools:

Brandywine Springs School	North Star Elementary School	Skyline Middle School
Baltz Elementary School	Richardson Park Elementary School	Stanton Middle School
Forest Oak Elementary School	Richey Elementary School	A.I.DuPont High School
Heritage Elementary School	Shortlidge Academy	Cab Calloway School of the Arts
Johnson Elementary School	Warner Elementary School	The Dickinson School
Lewis Elementary School	A.I. DuPont Middle School	McKean High School
Marbrook Elementary School	Conrad Schools of Science	Meadowood School
Mote Elementary School	H.B. DuPont Middle School	Meadowood School Annex

The bonds represent \$128,206,651 or 40% (Red Clay Consolidated School District’s local share) of the total cost of \$320,516,612 for the project listed above.

\$192,309,961 – State’s Share
\$128,206,651 – District’s Local Share
 \$320,516,612 – Total

If the District is authorized to issue bonds, the District shall levy and collect additional taxes to provide for the payment of interest on the bonds and for the retirement of the bonds as they fall due. The cost of the bonds will adjust to market rates. The amount of each annual tax increase that would be imposed as a result of the proposed bond issuance, depending upon market conditions, is estimated as follows:

Year	Fiscal Year	Amount of Annual Tax Increase as a Result of Proposed Bond to Improve Schools	Total Annual Tax Rate as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Maintain and Improve Schools	Projected Increase / Decrease in Annual Tax Rate as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Maintain and Improve Schools	Year	Fiscal Year	Amount of Annual Tax Increase as a Result of Proposed Bond to Improve Schools	Total Annual Tax Rate as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Maintain and Improve Schools	Projected Increase / Decrease in Annual Tax Rate as a Result of this Proposed Bond Issuance to Maintain and Improve Schools
1	2025	0.0094	0.1176	0.0094	13	2037	0.1575	0.1575	0.1575
2	2026	0.0779	0.1707	0.0779	14	2038	0.1526	0.1526	0.1526
3	2027	0.1419	0.2075	0.1419	15	2039	0.1478	0.1478	0.1478
4	2028	0.2027	0.2540	0.2027	16	2040	0.1429	0.1429	0.1429
5	2029	0.1976	0.2476	0.1976	17	2041	0.1381	0.1381	0.1381
6	2030	0.1925	0.2412	0.1925	18	2042	0.1333	0.1333	0.1333
7	2031	0.1874	0.2348	0.1874	19	2043	0.1285	0.1285	0.1285
8	2032	0.1824	0.2285	0.1824	20	2044	0.1238	0.1238	0.1238
9	2033	0.1774	0.2222	0.1774	21	2045	0.1140	0.1140	0.1140
10	2034	0.1724	0.2131	0.1724	22	2046	0.0732	0.0732	0.0732
11	2035	0.1674	0.1972	0.1674	23	2047	0.0355	0.0355	0.0355
12	2036	0.1625	0.1695	0.1625					

Notes regarding the above table: Estimated “Annual Tax Increase amounts” are rounded and are stated in Cents/\$100 of Assessed Value. The “Annual Tax Rate” is based on the District’s current debt service rate (\$0.13 per \$100 of assessed value) and several other factors including market interest rates. Retirement of existing debt will offset annual tax increases in future years. The calculations in the above table were prepared without regard to any future referenda that may be pursued by the District.

For a property in the District assessed at a value of \$80,745 (Red Clay Consolidated School District average assessment), the average increased debt service cost to the homeowner would be \$113.00 per year.

VOTER INFORMATION

Voters may only vote one time in this special election even if the voter has more than one child attending school in the Red Clay Consolidated School District.

The polls for the Special Election will be open on Wednesday, February 28th, 2024 at 7:00 AM and will remain open until 8:00 PM. Voters may vote in any of the following designated polling places, all of which are accessible to voters with disabilities:

Al du Pont High School
50 Hillside Road, Wilmington

Dickinson High School
1801 Milltown Road, Wilmington

North Star Elementary School
1340 Little Baltimore Road, Hockessin

Baltz Elementary School
1500 Spruce Avenue, Wilmington

Forest Oak Elementary School
55 S Meadowood Drive, Newark

Richardson Park Elementary School
16 Idella Avenue, Wilmington

Brandywine Springs School
2916 Duncan Road, Wilmington

Hockessin PAL
7259 Lancaster Pike, Hockessin

Skyline Middle School
2900 Skyline Drive, Wilmington

Cab Calloway School
100 N. Dupont Road, Wilmington

Joseph E. Johnson School
2100 Gilpin Avenue, Wilmington

Stanton Middle School
1800 Limestone Road, Wilmington

Cooke Elementary School
2025 Graves Road, Hockessin

Lewis Dual Language School
920 N. Van Buren Street, Wilmington

Warner Elementary School
801 W 18th Street, Wilmington

QUALIFICATIONS TO VOTE

- Must be a citizen of the United States and Delaware
- Must be a resident of the RCCSD School District
- Must be 18 years of age or older
- You do NOT have to be a registered voter for purposes of a general election

ABSENTEE BALLOT

You may vote by absentee ballot if you cannot vote at a polling place on the day of election for one of the following reasons:

- You are temporarily or permanently disabled;
- You are serving in the public service of the U.S. or the State of Delaware;
- You are the spouse or a dependent living with or accompanying a person serving the U.S. or the State of Delaware;
- The nature of your job or occupation does not permit you to go to the polls;
- You are sick;
- The tenets or teachings of your religion prevent you from voting on the days or times set for the election;
- You are incarcerated but otherwise eligible to vote;
- You are away on vacation;
- You are the caregiver to a parent, spouse or that person’s child who is living at home and requires constant care due to illness or injury;
- You are temporarily living outside of the U.S.;
- You cannot go to the polls because of illness or injury received while serving in the Armed Forces; or
- You serve in the Armed Forces, Red Cross, U.S.O., or the Merchant Marine; or
- You are authorized pursuant to the federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) [42 U.S.C § 1973ff et seq.], or any other federal law, to vote by absentee ballot.

To vote by absentee ballot:

- Download an Absentee Application from <https://de.gov/schabsapp> , request one by email at absentee@delaware.gov; or request one by phone at 302-577-3464.
- If you want an absentee ballot mailed to you, send a completed application so that it arrives at the Department of Elections, New Castle County Office no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, February 23, 2024. You may either email the completed application to absentee@delaware.gov, or mail it to 820 N. French St., Suite 400, Wilmington, DE 19801-3512.
- In order to be counted, voted absentee ballots must be received at the Department of Elections, New Castle County Office, 820 N French St, Suite 400, Wilmington, DE 19801 no later than 8 p.m. on Wednesday, February 28, 2024.
- Vote in person by absentee ballot at the Department of Elections, New Castle County Office, Mon-Fri from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. until Monday, February 26, 2024, or from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on Tuesday, February 27, 2024.
- NOTE: If you are a voter with a “permanent absentee status”, this status does not cover school elections. You will not automatically be mailed an absentee ballot. You must request one. Please follow instructions above to request an absentee ballot.

PROOF OF IDENTIFICATION AND ADDRESS

- Persons appearing to vote must present satisfactory proof of identity and address to the Election Officers at the Polling Place before being permitted to vote. Persons who do not present satisfactory proof of identity and address, may – upon majority vote of the Inspector and the two Judges – be permitted to vote.

By Order of the RED CLAY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Jose Matthews, President
Dorrell Green, Executive Secretary and Superintendent

Posted in accordance with Delaware Code, Title 14, Section 1074. Do not remove until February 29th, 2024